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URBAN DISTRICT OF WELWYN GARDEN CITY

Interim Annual Medical Report for the year 1946.

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On the 31st March, 1946 Dr. Trevor Thomas relinquished his appointment as Medical Officer of Health, Welwyn Garden City Urban District Council, Hatfield Rural District Council, and Welwyn Rural District Council, to take up an appointment in Nairobi, and on 25th March, 1946, Dr. J.E. Dickson, M.B., B.S. (Lond) D.P.H., was appointed as his successor.

1. Statistics.

Rateable value at December 31st, 1946.	£158,133
Inhabited houses at December 31st, 1946.	4,565

The population figure supplied by the Registrar General was 17,730. Statistics have been calculated with this figure.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Number of deaths from all causes		60	54	114	
Number of live births.	Legitimate.	195	195	390	
	Illegitimate.	16	22	38	
Number of still births.	Legitimate.	3	3	6	
	Illegitimate.	1	-	1	
Number of deaths of infants under one year.	Legitimate.	7	5	12	
	Illegitimate.	-	-	-	
		<u>1946.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1943.</u>
Live birth rate per 1,000 of the population.		24.18	19.87	22.82	20.00
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births.		16.09	28.25	27.30	36.03
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the population.		6.44	7.10	7.42	7.54
Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births.		28.03	49.42	28.06	17.39
Death rate of all legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.		30.76	47.32	29.97	18.40
Death rate of all illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.		---	64.51	---	---
Death rate for all infants under one year for England and Wales is 43.					

Of the 12 infant deaths 3 were due to prematurity and 5 to congenital defects and were not therefore preventable.

2. Infectious Disease.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:-

Diphtheria	2	Measles	22	Sonne Dysentery	3
Scarlet Fever	22	Tuberculosis	35	Erysipelas	3
Whooping Cough	93	Puerperal Pyrexia	4	Poliomyelitis	3
Jaundice	5	Pneumonia	6	(1 case not confirmed)	
				Infective Hepatitis	4.

During the year 69 visits were made concerning the occurrence of cases of infectious disease.

3. Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 229 children under five and 55 children over five years of age were immunised.

4. Tuberculosis.

There were 9 deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>	
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non-Pulm.</u>
On the register at 31st December 1945.	65	30	51	14
Removals from register during the year.	14	2	9	2
Added to register during the year.	25	-	12	2
Cases on register at 31st December 1946.	76	28	54	14

Total number of cases 172.

5. Scabies.

During the year 113 treatments were given, 42 to children, 52 to women, and 19 to men.

6. Sanitary circumstances of the area.

Water. (Public Supply). Of the 26 samples of the public water supply obtained during the year, all were found to be uniformly pure.

Milk. During the year 1946 a total of 118 milk samples were obtained from six retailers selling milk in the town, of these 99 were found to be satisfactory and 19 unsatisfactory.

General. The sanitary condition of premises in the town is generally satisfactory, structural conditions show deterioration due to the existing labour shortage. During the year 736 inspections were made, 53 informal notices were served, 50 were complied with, two were outstanding at the end of the year, and in the remaining case an abatement notice was served and complied with.

7. Housing.

There is a serious shortage of houses in the town. At the end of the year there were 1673 persons registered as applicants for Council Houses, compared with 324 registered at December 1945.

8. Factories

All permanent factories in the town are of modern construction. 59 inspections of factories were made during the year 1946. Defects were found and remedied in the following cases, defective W.C's 4, lack of cleanliness 1, defective drainage 1. In addition contraventions of the Sanitary Accommodation Regulations, 1938, were found to be present in two factories. These contraventions were being remedied at the close of the year.

Council Offices,
WELWYN GARDEN CITY,
Herts.

J. E. DICKSON

Medical Officer of Health